

SERIAL No. 10/033,788

Page 8

Remarks

Claims 4 – 8, 12, 16 – 19, 23 and 24 remain in the application with claims 23 and 24 being the only independent claims.

Claim 23 is claim 17 rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the examiner, and should now be allowable.

Claim 24 is claim 6 rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the examiner, and should now be allowable.

It should be noted that claim 6, remaining in the application, is ultimately dependent on claim 23, whereas original claim 6 is now included with claim 24. Also, claim 17, remaining in the application, is ultimately dependent on claim 24, whereas original claim 17 is now included with claim 23.

All of the remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from claims 23 and 24 and should also be allowable

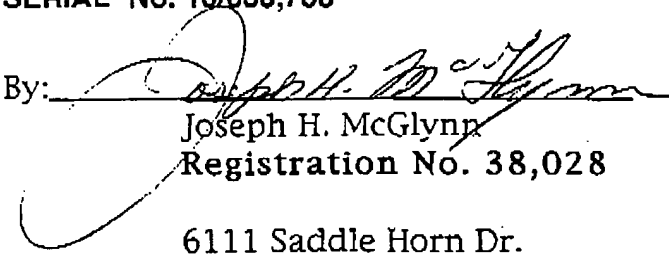
From the above mentioned remarks and amendments, the Examiner's rejections and objections are thought to be overcome. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore an early notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Patent & Trademark Services, Inc.

SERIAL No. 10/033,788

Page 9

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